

CFDA 15.641

Wildlife Without Borders-Mexico
Summary of Projects 2003

Total FWS Funding: \$582,083.00

Total Leveraged Funds: \$1,413,444.00

“Strengthening Wildlife Enforcement Activities at the Montes Azules Biosphere Reserve”, served to protect the large number of migratory birds and endangered species harbored by the Montes Azules Biosphere Reserve through strengthening of enforcement activities and public outreach. Project activities included: mapping the most frequent illegal hunting and poaching sites in the reserve; identification of the species threatened by poaching and illegal hunting; and the implement a minimum of 8 outreach workshop for local communities in the reserve. In partnership with Consejo Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas. FWS: \$16,500.00; Leveraged Funds: \$33,742.00.

“Monitoring of the Steineger lizard (*Phrynosoma ditmarsii*) at the Ajos-Bavispe Biosphere Reserve” helped protect this endemic species of lizard, classified as endangered by the Mexican Government, through a determination of its distribution and abundance and the development of a recovery plan for the species. In partnership with Consejo Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas. FWS: \$8,630.00; Leveraged Funds: \$17,200.00.


“Capacity-building and Awareness-raising Program in Agriculture Production Alternatives” protected critical habitat of a vast number of migratory bird and endangered species at the Montes Azules Biosphere Reserve, in Chiapas, Mexico. Project activities included workshops for local communities on sustainable natural resource management, the establishment of demonstration agricultural plots, the production and distribution of a training manual and videos in the three main local languages (Tzeltal, Lacandon, and Chol). In partnership with Consejo Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas. FWS: \$22,363.00; Leveraged Funds: \$14,707.00.


“Certificate Course on Conservation and Management of Temperate Mountain Ecosystems in Mexico” focused on creating superior natural resource managers in Mexico through an on-the-job training program emphasizing state-level participation. Project activities included specialized training in Conservation Biology theory and practice for Mexican Officers; production and distribution of training manual; network creation of resource manager course participants; and course evaluation. In partnership with Unidos para la Conservación, A.C. FWS: \$75,000.00; Leveraged Funds \$86,000.00.

“Establishment of a Strategy for the Reintroduction and Recovery of the Desert bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadensis*) in Mexico” project’s purpose was to recover endangered desert bighorn sheep and repopulate former ranges in northern Mexico. The award assisted recipients in establishing a 15-member Bi-national Advisory Committee from Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico natural resource state agencies, conducting two workshops to analyze existing data and discuss innovative means, habitat assessment field trips; producing a technical report with conservation recommendations, training manual, and presenting a National Strategy to Government of Mexico authorities. In partnership with Unidos para la Conservación, A.C. FWS: \$25,000.00; Leveraged Funds \$54,480.00.

“Population and Feeding Ecology of Seabirds in the Gulf of California and its Relationship with Commercial Fisheries, Phase II” venture was to protect breeding colonies of endangered migratory

seabirds in the Midriff Islands of the Gulf of California, Mexico, through study of the relationship of breeding success and commercial pelagic fisheries and the effects of competition for food with the fishing industry. Support covered monitoring activities of the species, management plan, engaging fishing industry representatives and rallying support of the project, and training university and community members in wildlife management methodologies and field techniques. In partnership with Conservacion del Territorio Insular Mexicano, A.C. FWS: \$20,000.00; Leveraged Funds: \$95,600.00.

 **Participatory Training for Local Communities to Restore Habitat in the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve** This project promoted long-term conservation of the monarch butterfly's wintering habitat through natural resource management training for the communities of the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve in Mexico. Training focused on providing viable alternatives to deforestation. Activities included a needs assessment at the *Donaciano Ojeda* community and implementation of a community-wide conservation training strategy; long-term activities for volunteer trainers; Reserve training center maintenance, curriculum and schedule; 17 working sessions and 8 training exercises at the community; educational materials; and expanded project support via ALTERNARE's Advisory Group and other outreach means. In partnership with ALTERNARE, A.C. FWS: \$50,000.00; Leveraged Funds: \$273,000.00.

 **"Monarch Overwintering Area Reforestation Project"** supported reforestation strategy for protection of the threatened oyamel forest ecosystem which is the wintering habitat of the monarch butterfly. The goal was to establish alternative sites for harvesting wood for domestic use and income for local people, and assist local communities in creating a sustainable forest products industry in reforestation areas. In partnership with Michoacan Reforestation Fund. FWS: \$20,000.00; Leveraged Funds: \$107,000.00.

"Cultured-based Protection and Restoration of Wildlife Habitat in the Sierra Tarahumara" promoted the protection of the Tarahumara priority conservation areas' critical wildlife habitat. The award covered training local people on sustainable natural resource management, including watershed management, environmental education, forest management and restoration, protected areas, and wildlife conservation; development of a community natural resource management plan, and research. In partnership with Sierra Madre Alliance. FWS: \$37,000.00; Leveraged Funds: \$92,000.00.

"Establishment of the National School for the Capacity Building of Peasant Wildlife Promoters" project provided training on biodiversity conservation and natural resource management focusing on principles, practices and outreach techniques to more than 80 extension workers in biodiversity-rich rural areas in Mexico, and training manuals. In partnership with Centro Campesino para el Desarrollo Sustentable, A.C. FWS: \$35,000; Leveraged Funds: \$84,278.00.

"Training Program for Ecological Planning and Watershed Management in Four Key Regions in Mexico" project supported protection of the biodiversity-rich regions of Veracruz, Campeche, Tabasco, and Queretaro through training local partner organizations in biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource management. A core group was created to train other member organizations on long-term basis; UNORCA's biodiversity technical advisory entity formed; training manuals, other educational material, and management plan were also produced. In partnership with UNORCA, A.C. FWS: \$35,000.00; Leveraged Funds: \$29,800.00.

"Developing Capacity and Transferring Information for Conservation of the Colorado River Delta" project's purpose was to conserve the wetlands and biodiversity of the Colorado River Delta by strengthening the development of local human resources and increasing the understanding of restoration opportunities by local people and government agencies. The award supported AEURHYC capacity building, understanding the correlation of the river's condition and community's economies and health,

information sharing via Geographical Information System (GIS), and enhancement of Mexico's National Water Commission's flood control plan. In partnership with the Sonoran Institute. FWS: \$20,000.00; Leveraged Funds: \$55,000.00.

“Conservation and Restoration of Guadalupe Island in the Pacific Coast of Baja California” project supported the protection of endangered birds' nesting sites through the removal of introduced goats and cats, and development of a strategy to assist native plant and animal species recovery, focusing on one of the most important coastal islands. A quarantine program was formed to prevent future introduction of plants and animals into the island and an environmental education and outreach program was also implemented. In partnership with the Island Conservation and Ecology Group. FWS: \$15,000.00; Leveraged Funds: \$37,770.00.

“PROBEA: Sea of Cortez Collaboration for Environmental Education and Training” project goal was to implement a comprehensive human resources training program that educates teachers, students, and residents about watershed and resource conservation, Mexico's Marine Protected Areas (MPA's) and strengthen the capacity of these communities to develop their own sustainable programs. The award covered the creation of a regional environmental education community center in Tijuana; partnerships, training educators in 4 cities in the Baja California South region; development of regionally-focused environmental curricula; video production; and training and community outreach in Loreto, La Paz, and Mulege. In partnership with the San Diego Natural History Museum. FWS: \$35,000.00; Leveraged Funds: \$209,604.00.

“U.S. and Mexico Migratory Bats Conservation and Education Initiative” project supported efforts to protect endangered species of migratory bats and their habitats through research, education, and direct conservation activities. The Recipient produced “Bats, a Treasure for All to Protect” children's book, bat education workshops, teacher/student curricula, graduate tracking database, community activities, management plans for 3 key bat caves. Additional activities included research on habitat protection needs, life history, species distribution, and long-nosed bat habitat restoration. In partnership with Bat Conservation International. FWS: \$20,000.00; Leveraged Funds: \$171,800.00.

“III Course for Park Rangers in Mexico” project provided instruction in natural resource management for at least 30 park wardens in Mexico, course curriculum development, production of a training manual and other educational materials; and course evaluation. In partnership with Instituto de Historia Natural. FWS: \$29,866.00; Leveraged Funds: \$23,805.00.